

# *Flying Figtree*

Term 1, Week 4

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2016

*Weekly Newsletter*



*Heights of Excellence*

## Upcoming Events

19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Leaders applications due
19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Rugby Union 7's Trials
24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	District Swimming Carnival
	Captains Feature in Mercury
	P&C Meeting
29 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Halogen Leaders Conference (selected students)
29 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Bookclub Closes
1 <sup>st</sup> March	Blue Dragon Presentation
2 <sup>nd</sup> March	8:53am Student Leadership Ceremony
	Figtree High Expo Night 6pm
4 <sup>th</sup> March	Clean Up Australia Day
8 <sup>th</sup> March	Regional Swimming Carnival
9 <sup>th</sup> March	8:53am Swimming Champions Assembly
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Smith Hill Test Day
11 <sup>th</sup> March	Infants Camp Out
17 <sup>th</sup> March	Zone Hockey Trials
	InterRelate Visit
18 <sup>th</sup> March	Cross Country at Figtree High
21 <sup>st</sup> March	Harmony Day
	World of Maths K – 3
22 <sup>nd</sup> March	World of Maths 4 – 6
	PSC Learning to Lead Day (selected students)
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	P&C Meeting <b>AGM</b>
	Kinder Vision Screening
	Easter Combined Performance
24 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter Hat Parade
	Rugby 7's Carnival
25 <sup>th</sup> March	Good Friday (Public Holiday)
28 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter Monday (Public Holiday)
1 <sup>st</sup> April	Pink Stumps Day (wear pink)
6 <sup>th</sup> April	3/4P Class Assembly
7 <sup>th</sup> April	Stage 3 Cultural Dress Up Day

## Happy Birthday to the following students

Brooke Baird, Jaiden Kerr,  
Awande Masuku, Nate Synott

### Private Guitar Lessons with Leisa Adlington

Leisa will not be running guitar lessons at school this year but she is keen to take on students privately from her home.

If you are a guitarist (or want to be) and would like more information about lessons and costs please contact Leisa on 0428 970 811.

## Community News

### FIGTREE HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION



P&C Federation

### GENERAL MEETING

**WEDNESDAY 24TH FEBRUARY**

**6.30PM IN THE HIVE**

CHILD MINDING AVAILABLE

ALL PARENTS & CITIZENS WELCOME

**SHOW YOUR COMMITMENT AND STAY INFORMED  
BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!**

[WWW.FIGTREEHTS-P.SCHOOLS.NSW.EDU.AU/FHPS-P-C/P-C](http://WWW.FIGTREEHTS-P.SCHOOLS.NSW.EDU.AU/FHPS-P-C/P-C)

### Canteen News – Reminder

The canteen is not open at recess Monday – Friday. If a student would like to purchase food for recess please order it the same as a lunch order. It will be delivered to the classroom with lunch orders. Students can put it in their bags to be eaten at recess. No cold food eg. Ice blocks etc can be ordered for recess.

On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February the canteen will only be open for snacks, no lunch orders.

Volunteers still needed for Monday's, Wednesday's and Friday's.

### Canteen Roster

The canteen is open on a **Monday, Wednesday and Friday** for lunch orders.

Snacks only at lunchtime on **Tuesday and Thursday**.

**Don't forget to use our canteen!**

<b>Monday</b>	Helen Perna
<b>Tuesday</b>	Cindy Ladmore and Jacqui Smart
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Open for snacks only, no lunch orders</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	Jennifer Munro and Natalie Reynolds
<b>Friday</b>	Sonya DeBruyn and Brooke Bridge

### Useful Information

To download our school phone app go to the App Store on iTunes (Google Play for Android users), search for Figtree Heights and simply download. **Username:** community **Password:** figtreehtsps Make sure you allow notifications from Figtree Heights in your phone's control settings.

# What do you need to know?

## **Principal's Report**

*Please make sure you keep an eye on the running calendar in this newsletter for all upcoming events and important dates. Whilst we have endeavoured to put all events on the term planner that went out last week, there will be times during the term that events may need to be added. Please stay tuned to this calendar.*

## **Clean Playground**

Nobody enjoys playing in a rubbish filled playground, however, of late that is what our students are faced with. Children often get distracted during playtime and leave rubbish around, meaning to come back to it but often forgetting to (I hope this is the case anyway!). We have been vigilant with reminding our students where their rubbish belongs and have had daily reminders about being responsible citizens in the playground, however, we are still having an issue. To support a clean playground and our surrounding environment, part of our **Live Life Well** focus in 2016 will be to reduce our rubbish footprint. One way to help our school achieve this can be through children bringing less rubbish (packaging) to school in their lunchboxes. Any help families can give to help achieve this goal would be greatly appreciated. Our Live Life Well Leadership Team will be driving this campaign and we cannot wait to see how this improves our school environment.

## **Sick Days**

There have been a few questions regarding this topic from last week's newsletter. In short, we are asking for parents or carers to please inform the school if your child is going to be away from school. We understand the morning is not always an easy time to contact the school, especially with a sick child, however, if you can do so at your earliest convenience it would be appreciated. Thank you.

## **Before School Care**

There are a number of students who are arriving at school before 8am. This means, that on many occasions, students are at school before teachers, sometimes for half an hour if we have meetings or are at professional learning off site. We understand that work commitments can be tricky, however, students cannot be at school at this time. School is a safe place for our children but not at this time, especially without adequate supervision. **Please remember supervision begins at 8:30am.** If you need access to before school care for your children the FHPS P&C OOSH is now operational before school and are happy to take enrolments.

## **Work Health and Safety**

Many of you are aware of the increasing number of bomb threats to schools across NSW. The threats have led to the evacuation of many schools, some in our local area. It has been good news that all the threats have been hoaxes, however, they have caused some distress. All schools have an emergency management plan in case of emergencies. Throughout the year we have emergency evacuation, lockdown and fire drills. We recently had an evacuation drill and will continue to simulate these emergencies to ensure we are prepared if a real emergency comes our way. Our P.A. system has made these emergency drills much easier and provides the school with the opportunity to talk students through the process as it happens. In the event of a real emergency, the school would send an app notification out to parents, when instructed by emergency services, detailing the nature of emergency and instructions for the collection of children.





You think around 60,000 times a day  
and what you think affects your play.  
Of course you won't hear every thought  
Make sure only the good ones get caught.

-Cindy Russell-

[www.yourstoryspace.com](http://www.yourstoryspace.com)

## Creating Tomorrow's Citizen

Part of our three year school direction is creating active and informed citizens. Our vision is for our students to leave Figtree Heights and be prepared for life outside the walls of primary school.

We want our children to be decision makers, problem solvers and empowered citizens. Members of society, who know how to chase their dreams, learn from knockdowns, show resilience and be strong in their true self.

We are teaching our children to choose happiness as they are the ones who have the power to do so.

Reiterating this at home will help ensure our children are prepared for their bright futures.

## Anaphylaxis

We have an increasing number of students who have allergies to eggs, nuts and food containing nut products. As a school we cannot claim to be nut free, and nuts are not a banned product in NSW Department of Education schools. However, we are asking parents to be vigilant with their children and help them understand the immediate danger those children who are anaphylactic can be in if they come into contact with these products. While we have not asked students to refrain from bringing in food containing nuts, I ask that you discuss with your children the need for washing hands after eating products containing nuts and also that the sharing of food is not permitted. I appreciate your continued support with this matter. Thank you for supporting the school to keep all of our students healthy and safe.

## Health Care Action Plans

If your child has a medical condition that requires a medical action plan (e.g. anaphylaxis, asthma etc.), please ensure that you have provided the school with a current plan.

## Class Dojo

You may be aware that all classes at Figtree Heights are utilising the app **Class Dojo**. As a school we have decided to implement this medium to help parents get an insight to what incredible learning opportunities our students are experiencing in their classrooms. Whilst it is not practical to update this everyday, we will endeavour to post regularly. Please note Class Dojo does not replace our class webpages on the Figtree Heights website.

Have a great weekend!

Warm regards,

*Skye Hayward*

Principal

*Education is not the learning of facts, but the  
training of the mind to think,  
– Albert Einstein*

**Have you been on our school website lately?** There are lots of new features and classes are continuing to update their sites for parents to get a great look at what is happening in their classroom.

Our website can be found at: [http://www.figtreeheights-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/](http://www.figtreeheights.p.schools.nsw.edu.au/)



# Figtree High School Expo Night 2016

6pm Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016

Figtree High School Auditorium

Parents and Year 6 students who are interested in finding out what Figtree High has to offer in Year 7 2017 are invited to the annual Expo Night.

School Tours  
Faculty Displays  
Games  
Student guides  
Technology

For further information,  
please call or email us:  
02 4271 2787

[figtree-  
h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:figtree-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

## Want to learn a brass or percussion instrument for \$30 per year?



The City of Wollongong Brass Band is starting up a new group for beginner musicians – instruments supplied as part of the \$30 fee!

**Please come along to our information session!**

**What:** Try, hear, watch and learn about brass instruments in a fun environment!

**When:** Friday February the 19<sup>th</sup> 4:30pm-5:30pm

**Where:** City of Wollongong Brass Band Hall – 3 Ellen Street Wollongong (entry via Church St.)

Please RSVP to Des Cannings on [des.cannings@gmail.com](mailto:des.cannings@gmail.com) or 0431065359 by the 17<sup>th</sup> of Feb (earlier the better, otherwise instruments will run out!)

Stage 3 did a workshop with this group last week and they are looking for interest from students from Figtree Heights.

A great (and very inexpensive) opportunity for any students looking to learn a brass instrument.

Thanks  
Greg Costello